

George Alfred Jones **John Jones** Selina Jones Sarah Jones Miscellaneous

<p>Undated (but references to the marriage suggest the date to be Jan. 1893)</p>	<p>Raglan Barracks, Devonport</p>	<p>Dear Father & Mother, I suppose (sic) you think that I have forgotten (sic) you all but the fact is I have nothing to say only the usual thing – still alive and kicking, hope you are all well at home. I had a letter from Leen but have not answered it yet, must do so, or I shall get into hot water I suppose (sic). Now a little of military affairs. 1st, lately we have been on duty, duty has been very heavy on us one week I did 3 guards. Went on guard on Friday, came off on Saturday, done a nother (sic) on Tuesday then a nother on Friday, that was the stiffest I have had for some time, but I am struck off duty for a month now. We are doing our field training, this is a thing every Coy has to do – 1st the N.C Officers do sketching for 8 days, then the whole Coy marches out and pitches camp for the day, cooking our food in the field trench ovens. Then we have to dig trenches for sheltering the troops, then we have to make bridges – every thing that would be required on active service. I think we shall be in this station 2 moor (sic) years, every regiment does about three hear (sic). I wish we were out of it, duty is to (sic) heavy. The “Prince of Wales” came down hear last Friday, we went to the station and saw him come in, “me and Mary”. He goes back tomorrow, Monday. Our regiment furnishes the Guard of Honour. I am orderly this week. I am just dropping (sic) you these few lines while Mary is at church. She is mad on going to some place of worship & I am very glad, though I am orderly, I will not detter (sic) her from going, the Garrison Church is only just across the road from our quarters so she goes there when I am on duty. When I am off we generally go into Plymouth to the Guild Hall. They have a service there, no sermon just a brief address by someone of the Town, some singing for the congregation & some selected music by some one generally good tallent (sic). They have a splendid organ – it fills the end of the building nearly. I don’t think I have anything els (sic) to talk about. Mary very often wishes she were at home – <u>Bletchley</u> – especially with this weather. We are getting splendid weather down hear (sic) now. This last month we have not had a wet day. Mary sends her love to all & except (sic) the same from your loving son George PS Just fancy, we have been married a year last month – no signes (sic) of any young Joneses as yet.</p>
<p>Undated</p>	<p>2nd Bedford Regt., Devonport</p>	<p>Dear Loo, Just a line to let you know that we are still alive and kicking here. Not gone out with the draft as you can see, a nother (sic) Sergeant was sent – had to go by order of the Commander in Chief. I have been out of town for a fortnight - into the country – have been camping out, going through our annual course of firing. Talk about mushrooms – the fields are covered. I got about a bushel the time I was out there, the place is called Tregantle Fort. We expect to be stationed up there some time this winter. Rather an out of the way place, about 5 miles from Devonport – stands on the Clift (sic) beside the sea. You have heard about the rough coasts in Cornwall – well this is like that, all rocks for miles along the coast. I think Mary will have about six bottles of Catchop [ketchup!] besides the feeds we have had. You could see the men cooking them all day long, they were so plentiful (sic). Dear Loo, I forgot to ask you if you had paid Jim for that frame. If you have, tell me how much and I will send it to you. He told me once, but I have lost his letter. Must close with best love to you from your loving brother and sister G.A. & M.B. Jones</p>

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Undated	Raglan Barracks, Devonport	<p>Dear Loo,</p> <p>I daresay you think I have given you up altogether by now. I have been going to write so many times. Mary has got on to me several times for not writing and now I have commenced I don't know what to say. I hav'nt (sic) much news to tell you. Dad sent me your letter, I could see how the Misses had been treating you but I should not leave till I had got a better place.</p> <p>I expect to be for India again this season, but don't know yet if I am. Shall be home in August if not not till the 15th October at the earliest. You see that is furlough season from the 15th October to 15th March, so if I am not for the draft I may be home any time between then.</p> <p>I was at Tregantle Fort Firing last week, firing with my company. Whilst there 2 men of the Devon Regt was drowned while [while] bathing. It seems one could not swim – he got out of his depth, the other went to save him and they both went down together. They buried one yesterday, the other they have not found yet. The Devon Regiment has been rather unlucky since they have been hear (sic), one a little time ago was murdered by some sailors @ least he was stabled (sic) one night, went (sic) out the next night to see if he could see any of them, inflammation set in and he was dead in a day or two after. My opinion of sailors isn't much good of them. I send one man to hospital the other day with an injured hand through one, this man was out in Town one night and a sailor gave him a smoke – he was just in the act of taking it out of his mouth when it exploded and cut a hole in his hand. It was a good thing he had got it out of his mouth. I will let you know when I think of coming home. Must close now with best love from your loving brother & sister</p> <p>G.A. & M.B. Jones</p>
Undated (but references in the letter to the heat suggest summer)	Raglan Barracks, Devonport	<p>Dear Father & Mother,</p> <p>Received you (sic) letter and paper quite safe, also the photo. Was going to write to Loo, but lost her adress (sic). I thought it very good of them – hasn't Lean got fat? I think Loo is loosing (sic) a little of hers though shall be able to tell you if I am for the draft soon, I hear that they will know in the Orderly Room by the end of this week. Well, if India is any hotter than we are getting it now it is "hot". I am on Main Guard – perhaps you remember it, at the entrance gate to Mount Wise. Have an officer on with me, I have got every door and window open, but am swetting (sic) all the same.</p> <p>Mary send her love to you all, this is the only time that I can write a letter, she says, when I am on guard. Well, I have plenty of time then, duty is rather heavy in this station though have had a week in bed this time but was orderly all the week and as soon as I finish my orderly I have to commence duty – was on canteen duty on Sunday, and Guard today, but this is a plesent (sic) guard, you can sit outside and watch the people go by and there is generally some cricketing on Mount Wise – was some today.</p> <p>I tell you what, this weather is getting searious (sic) – they are limiting us with the water now and if this holds up I don't know how we shall get on. I supose (sic) you are nearly as bad off.</p> <p>10-45 Have just taken the Field Officer, will finish this and then go for a nap on the boards with my valiace [valise?] for a pillow. The officer has got a little whiskey and soda but he is not verry (sic) free with it – he likes it too well himself. I think he is half gone now for when the guard fell in he goes and makes a blunder then asks me if it was right. The officers of the Brittish (sic) Army nowadays are not worth a snap of the fingers. Must close with best love to you all from your loving son and daughter</p>

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Undated	2 nd Batt. Bedford Regiment, Raglan Barracks	<p>G.A. & M.B. Jones</p> <p>Dear Loo, Just a few line in answer to your letter. I am jogging along, me and my wife in Barracks now, but not quite so nice as in our furnished room, though it will be a little saving for us. We was paying 4/- a week and my lodging allowance would not clear it, then we had to buy coal & light. Now that is found us besides (sic) Mary as (sic) got the Companies (sic) washing which she will get over four pounds a month for, but she does not do it herself. She payes (sic) a woman to do it which will cost her about a pound a month – then she has got three clear, so that will pay her and as (sic) nothing for it much, for my batman brings it to her from the men and takes it back & distributes it. If she could not get anyone to do it for her I should not let her do it herself, but you see it makes a lot of difference to us, the washing, for she gets more pay than I do but not so much when she as paid the washing woman.</p> <p>I can understand Mother getting on all right when she had washing – just fancy one day’s washing a week and get a pound for doing it. Of course, there is a good deal of it, just fancy, 60 or 70 shirts, but they do get washed I can tell you. They are grey, you know, the colour gets washed if that happens to be a light colour, but the other sees the water I suppose (sic) and that is about all. But, of course, this won’t last for ever. My time is up in August. I have not taken on yet, I suppose (sic) if I do I shall go out to India in October, so I don’t know what to do about it yet.</p> <p>I was thinking about going in for Prison Warder if that will better my pension. I believe they get good pay & better pension. If Jim could get any information for me about it I might have a try at it, if it will better my position. A Sergeant of ours was telling me that it was better than soldiering has (sic) they found you quarters, uniform and about 25 or thirty shillings a week to start with – he is going in for it, and I don’t fancy going to India somehow. So you might ask Jim if he can find out anything about it for me as there is a convict prison @ Portsmouth – I might get in that if it is favourable and they will take a soldier before they will a civilian.</p> <p>Mary sends her love to you and except (sic) the same from your loving pet</p> <p>George</p> <p>PS Give my love to Jim & Mary. How is Aunt Sarah getting on now? Do you ever see her ?</p> <p>G.E.J</p> <p>Have not heard from home lately. We had a Sergt by the name of Piper committed suicide yesterday, Thursday, cut his throat – leaves a wife and three children. She is school mistress for the Regiment.</p>
Undated	2 nd Bedford Regt., Raglan Barracks	<p>Dear Loo, I suppose (sic) you think I have forgotten (sic) you. I had a letter from Jim the other day and he told me a little about that I mentioned last time out. It is not very favourable. I shall take on. I have quite made up my mind to do so. If I should have to go out to India we shall pay a visit to you all I daresay, but I may not go out. You see, I have not been out yet and just taking on is all against me. Father tells me he sent you the Fenny rag and said I should get it from you.</p> <p>Give my love to Jim and Mary and also my Mary’s love to them all & tell Jim I have made my mind up to take on. Will write to him soon, now close with best love to all from your own pet</p>

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Undated	2 nd Bedford Regt., Raglan Barracks	<p>George</p> <p>Dear Lou, I have been going to write to you so many times, but have kept putting it off, so have just made time to scrawl a few lines in George's letter to thank you for so warmly welcoming Jenny and her husband. It was very good of you to do so. They tease me in the letters they write from home and say Jenny has seen my new sister before I have, but I hope it will not be long before I see you. I must tell you George began this letter two days ago and has just asked me to post it. We are having lovely weather here today – it has been so hot. You must please excuse scrawl with fondest love from your loving sister</p> <p>Mary</p> <p>Will write more next time.</p>
Undated (but black-edged notepaper suggests	2 nd Bedford Regt., Raglan Barracks, Devonport	<p>Dear Loo, Received your letter quite safe. I shall soon have to take on now, time is in August. I have heard from good authority that if I take on I shall go out to India in October. I suppose (sic) we shall have a furlough in September, if so shall come and have a look at you. I don't know the distance – must ascertain. I have sent Jim's letter in yours as I have lost his address. I had a letter from Lean a few days ago, she says she is getting on nicely & likes her place. I have not much to say for myself this time. Mary sends her love to you & says she will write to you tomorrow. I daresay you will think this is a thing of a letter to send to anyone, but perhaps my Mary will make up for it to you.</p> <p>Dear Loo, I am very happy with my Darling. I only wish I was in a good position so that I could have a better home for her but she does not mind. I do long to see your dear old face again & Mary longs to see all of you. She as (sic) only seen Lean as yet. But we shall do soon, I suppose (sic). From your loving brother & sister</p> <p>G.A & M.B. Jones</p> <p>[This next letter has black edging to notepaper]</p> <p>My dear Loo, At last I am writing to you. I daresay you were looking for one on Monday, as George told you I was going to write on Sunday. But, my dear girl, you know how it is. One keeps putting it off from time to time. You ask me if I take up all George's time. I don't know, I am sure – the time seems to fly somehow. Now Dear, about army life, I like it very much so long as we stay in England. I do not want to go to India but I suppose we shall have to go very soon. I do not much like the Idea of living among Black People. One thing, we must come and see you before we go. Do you often see Jenny in Portsmouth? Will you ask Bill to send me one of his sketches and tell him if he does I will not forget to give him that stunner I promised him, when I see him. You have no idea what an amount of teasing I get from those at home and from <u>George</u>, a bigger torment never existed, I'm sure. It's a wonder I am not grey headed considering what a lot I have to put up with – he can't even let me write this letter in Peace, he wants to have a finger in it, but this is quite confidential so dear, you must excuse him not writing anything in this letter. I think this must be all this time – trusting you are quite well, as we both are. I remain your loving sister</p>

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Undated	2 nd Bedford Regiment, Raglan Barracks	<p>Mary</p> <p>Dear Loo, I received yours, we are rather uncertain about going on furlough as yet. I must explain myself then you will understand - @ first I was for the draft but there is a nother man got to go and as there is only one Sergt to go I shall not be wanted. But I am "waiting man" that is I have to hold myself in readiness in case he should not go at the last minute in case he is absent or sick. I think I shall manage a furlough, the furloughs have not come out yet, so no-one knows who is going, but as soon as it comes out I will write or wire to you so you will know if you receive a telegram that we are going – if there is nothing on it the pass word will be "alwright" (sic). You need not trouble about the frames. Must close hoping to see you soon, with best love from Mary and myself. We remain your loving brother & sister</p> <p>G.A. & M.B. Jones</p>
Undated but probably late August	Mitre Hotel, Bridgend, South Wales	<p>[This next letter is sent with John Jones's letter of 2nd Sept]</p> <p>Dear Father & Mother, No doubt you will be suprised (sic) to get a letter from me in this part of the world, but such is the case never the less. If you read the paper you may see or know the reason anyway. I will tell you, our Regiment has been out distributed about Wales for this last week or more on account of the strike and it is an unthankful billet though my Company has got it easy enough – nothing to do – good beds to go to. I supose (sic) you think I have forgotten you all for it is some time now since I wrote to you but I am all right, thank God. I hope you are well at home. I hope to see you next month, for I shall be on furlough about then for the draft goes, I believe, in November and I shall be glad to go out for a change, and if I don't like it I can soon get home again for in two more years' time I shall have 10 years' service and shall be able to get on the Permanent Staff. Have you got much fruit this year, Dad? I saw a lot in Somersetshire as we came hear (sic), it seems plentiful enough everywere (sic). Give my love to Mother and all at home, from your loving son</p> <p>George</p>
Undated, but probably early November 1893	Raglan Barracks, Devonport	<p>Dear Father & Mother, I received your letter alwright (sic) at Wales, we arrived in Devonport last Friday evening, we left one Company out there at Newport. I was warned for the draft on Saturday – am the only Sergeant going out, we expect to sail on the 7th December. Shall be on Furlough on the 24th of this month, was out in Wales about two months. I daresay I shall be able to see Jim as we pass through Portsmouth on our way to the boat. I am glad I am going in one way, for I should like to see the country if I don't stay. One thing – I can soon get back again if I like, can register my name for the Permanent Staff and come back to Bedford or Heartford (sic) when I get 10 years' service & I have got 8 and 6 months or shall have by the time I get out there. Dear Dad, do you know Aunt Flint's address? Or at least the girls Clara & Maud. I should very much like to see them before I go out, and I haven't seen them for years and I was thinking we might call as we pass through London on our way Home. Mary has been at Home now about two months, so we thought we would go to my home first. She is back with me now – came back and came down to Newport to me – was there over a week. We thought we should stay there altogether, so I told her to come back and come down. I</p>

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		<p>should have liked to have stayed there very much – nice quarters and a very healthy place. We are getting 6 weeks' furlough, I believe, so the Sergeant Major told me – going out on the old Crock, I think. Mary sends her love to you all and except (sic) the same from your loving son</p> <p>George</p> <p>Write soon.</p>
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Feb. 14 th 1893	Well House, Bletchley	<p>Dear Louie,</p> <p>We received your letter last night and was glad to hear you was getting on so comfortable. We are all quite well, we got a letter from Jim last night by the same post as yours. I thought of sending it to you, but I can tell you how he is getting on. He got home safe and found Mary and found the children pretty well considering. He saw Fred Crane and Fred told him he had had a letter from his mother telling him she did not want the ship, so Fred opened the ball first. Jim made light of it. Jim went down to the point on Thursday for he had some eggs for Mrs. Taylor what her Daughter sent her from Drayton. When he got back he was greatly surprised to find his mother at home. The Doctor had let her out under the charge of one of the nurses, so she is much better. Jim went back to the Asylum with them, Jim said she was as good as gold and never said but one word out of place. That was, that she wanted her marriage lines to show that she was a married woman. Jim thinks the Doctor may let her come home next month if she keeps getting better. Jim has promised us the photos soon.</p> <p>We had a letter from Leany last week asking for some more clothes, so Mother & Sarah mended 2 up last Wednesday, washed them on Thursday and sent them off on Saturday morning. She told us in her letter that Mrs. Thornton was going out for a few days and if Mrs. Thornton wanted her to stop she should run home for her other clothes, which she expected she would for the House as (sic) not been the same since Leany left. Mrs. T. sent word to the maid to tell her not to come back. We have not had an answer from our letter or to say she got the parcel as yet, so I suppose she is expecting to come home either for her clothes or for good. You need not be surprised to see her any day as she is sure to call on you on her way back.</p> <p>Dear Louie, we have not heard from George since you left home. I wrote to him last Sunday week, I also sent him the Fenny rag last Sunday. There was nice bit in it a bout (sic) our dance, Sarah & Leany enjoyed themselves very much, but poor Sadey (sic) was quite knocked up – going to Leighton the same day.</p> <p>Dear Louie, I must tell you that there was also in the paper a very sad accident which happened to poor Robert Hanton (Tom Hanton's Father). He was chaff cutting down at the Croft on Mr. Leon's Estate, when by some means his hands was drawn in and both chopped up into the chaff. It regular upset the whole of Bletchley. I have told you all now. Bill's eyes are better and I have done posting. I must now close with love from all, we remain your loving Father & Mother</p> <p>J. & E.A. Jones xxxxxxxx</p>
Feb 26 1893	Well House Bletchley	<p>Dear Louie,</p> <p>No doubt you will be surprised to see such a small letter from me. I should have wrote you more, but we got a letter from Leany to say she was stopping at Mrs. Thornton's. She said she would like Sarah to come to see her, as Mrs. T. was gone out for a fortnight, and bring the remainder of her things down. Sarah will leave by the 11-52, arriving at Bedford at 12-22 tomorrow, Monday. She will stop with her until Tuesday or Wednesday afternoon. She will call on you on her way home. No doubt, they will drop you a line to say which day. Mother will send you a few little things by her.</p> <p>We are all quite well & hope you are the same. Sarah can tell you all when she comes.</p> <p>I must now conclude my short note with love from all and remain your loving Father . J. Jones</p>
1 Mar 1893	Well House Bletchley	<p>Dear Louie,</p> <p>Just a line to say Sarah got home safe, - Fred met her at the station. We was glad to hear you was getting on so well with your cooking. Sarah told us you had a lot of work to do, and that you was not so stout as</p>

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		<p>when you left home. You must try and eat well and not drink too much coffee, because it dries up the blood, - cocoa will be better for you. I must tell you we got Daisy's Photo by this evening's post, and hope you will also get one soon if you have not got one already. It is now Church time, so I must close with love from all. From your loving F & M J & E.A. Jones</p> <p>Mother says you are to be sure to write and let us know you got the parcel alright. Bill will go off the club tomorrow. We have not heard from George since, nor from Jim. George Judge is expected home in a month. I must go - good night</p> <p style="text-align: center;">J. J.</p> <p>Sarah had a long yarn to tell us when she got home. Leany told Sarah to give her kind love to you.</p>
Apr. 30 1893	Well House Bletchley	<p>Dear Louie,</p> <p>Just a few lines to say we are all well and hope you are the same. I should have wrote to you before, only I have been very busy what with the garden, field work, funerals and my watch work as well. I suppose you got a letter from Will & Sarah last week also the Fenny rag, for you to see the death of Mrs. Lowndes. I shall send you the paper again this week. - would have sent it today, but have not got a 1/2d stamp so I will send it tomorrow, Monday. So that you can see the funeral of Mrs. Lowndes.</p> <p>I have written to Leany, also Fred . I got a letter from Fred – he sent his kind love to you. I suppose Will told you we had a lot of funerals lately, but he did not say who they were. Mrs. John Day, that used to live at the bottom of the green was burried in Easter Week on Thursday April 6th . My birthday 59 gone into the 60th now. Mrs. John Goss of Water Eaton on Saturday 8th Apl. And poor old John Goss the following Saturday Apl. 15th. Mrs. Lowndes the next Friday, Apl. 21st. Tomorrow we bury Jesse Wilkinson's wife, - I suppose you did not know her. She died on Thursday. Was found dead in her bed after Jesse was gone to work. His first wife died the same.</p> <p>Louie Scott sends her kind love to you. We all join in love to you, - and you must not be surprised to see me over there in a week or two, - just for an hour or two, I can soon pop over on my Tryke, if that is "all & call" and see Lizzie Young on my way going or coming back. I cannot say much about Leany now, as everything seems so unsettled with the Lowndes family.</p> <p>I think I have told you all for this time so I close my short letter. From your loving Father & Mother J & E.A. Jones</p>
June 2 1893	Well House Bletchley	<p>Dear Daughter,</p> <p>I now take my pen with pleasure to acknowledge your welcom(sic) letter, receive last night. We was sorry to have such bad news for you. Leany went back last Monday. We had a letter from her this morning bearing altogether such good news as yours was bad. But, never mind, cheer up yourself. Stand it 2 months if possible, then come home and have a rest for a week or two. We had a letter from George last Monday. He is expecting to go to India with the next draught(sic). He said he should be home again about the same as last year, - so that will be August. You will be free then to enjoy the time at home with him. Sarah will not come over now (h)as you wish her not to.</p> <p>Dear Louie, I hope you will excuse me for not writing you a longer letter, but the time is rather short owing to us having a funeral at Bletchley today. An old lady by the name of Crisp, Mr. Leon's Foreman's Mother, at what is called the Croft in the Park. She was born</p>

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		<p>in May, married in May and died in May at the good old age of 91. I must tell you that Mother has often talked about her poor Lou, and (how) thin she had got. I think I have told you all for this time so I must close with fond love from all. I remain your loving Father John Jones</p> <p>xxxxxx xxxxxx xxxxxx</p> <p>We have hard work in the field now, was posting last fortnight.</p>
July 2 nd 1893	Well House Bletchley	<p>Dear Louie,</p> <p>In reply to yours, received last night, - as regards stopping at your place, hardly know what advice to give you. Mother says let her please herself. If you are knocked up you can come home, but if you can manage to rub along – why stop ?. Because if you go back to Portsmouth there is not much to be got there, and it will cost a lot of money to go and stop out of place there. But do as you please. Your Mistress seems to have some funny wims(sic), but she might be different when the baby comes to town. We don't know whether George will be home or not, - in fact he did not know himself when he wrote the last letter, which we got from him on the 21st of June. I have sent it to you so that you can read for yourself. We are well considering the hot whether(sic), I was posting to Shenley this morning. When I got back it was like skinning a rabbet(sic) to pull my shirt off to put a dry one on, - it was so very wet with swet(sic). The Stoke postman has got a fortnight's holiday, so I am going on for him tomorrow. I would not do any posting at all, only that money and trade is so very scarce that I am really obliged to get a few shillings the best manner I can. Dear Louie, You might drop George a few lines and send him your address, - well, if you don't, I think I shall in a few days. We had a letter from Leany on the 22nd June so we owe her a letter as well. We also owe Jim one, but I don't know his address. I shall have to address his letter to the G.P.O. at Portsmouth when I write. I hear Fred Crane is coming home for a fortnight. He talks of bringing little Jimmy with him to stop with us. We had Aunt Fox and some of William Eame's children down here last Wednesday. They came for a day in Leon's Park. Aunt Fox looks better than I have seen her for some time. She asked after all of you, and wished us to send her kind love to all.. Val Sear's sister Eliza is come home with her intended husband – both stopping at Val's – was asked in church today for the first time. I think I have sent you all the news for this time, so I must close, with fond love from all, leaving you to exercise your own judgement as regards your own affairs. You know you are out of my power now. I will give you a home when you come. I remain your loving Father John Jones.</p> <p>Drop a line when you have time.</p>
July 13 1893	Well House Bletchley	<p>Dear Louie,</p> <p>Just a few lines to say Sarah got home alright. She had a long yarn to tell us when she got home about the drenching she got, and how you dressed her up. Also about the church and the bells. She set me</p>

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		<p>a'longing to come down and have a pull. She has been down to Aldermans about the Photos. They will be only 1/- each. Sarah only ordered 2, so I have told her to go down and order an other to make 3, as I would like one for Lizzie Young at 39 Speedwell, Woburn.</p> <p>We are all quite well, and hope this will find you the same. It is now 3-40, so I must close to get ready for my walk to Stoke. Fond love from all in haste</p> <p>Your loving Father J. Jones.</p> <p>(P.S.) My rent day is bank holiday I am afraid, - I shall be short. Do you think you can spare £1 for a week or two ?. John's rent payable to Sir Everard Duncombe was, at that time £ 3-12-0 p.a.</p>
23 rd July	Well House Bletchley	<p>Dear Louie,</p> <p>Just a few lines to say we have not got the Photos yet. Mr. Alderman said we should have them as yesterday. I have ordered 4. Sarah went down last night but could not get in, so we don't know whether they are done or not. Sarah bought some busks and thought of sending you a parcel as this morning by Mr. Barnwell. So you must not expect them for a week now.</p> <p>I had a post card from Jim, so you can see what he says. I don't know his address, but as Alf Crane has been down to Portsmouth on his holidays, I shall know all about them. I could send Will over on the tryke if you want the parcel before Saturday. The reason I ordered 4 Photos was because I should like for Leany to have one, & Lizzie Young to have one also. One for Jim & one for yourself. Will went to see his Aunt Fox last Sunday, & stoped(sic) up to Tuesday night. All was quite well, as we are the same and hop(e) you are also. We all join in love.</p> <p>I remain your loving Father J. Jones.</p>
Aug 3 rd 1893	Well House Bletchley (postcard probably written on Bletchley Station)	<p>Dear Louie,</p> <p>We had a letter from Lizzie Young. She would have come over to see you before had she have known before. She hopes to see you on Bank Holiday at Woburn. She will be in the Park managing a pastry stall for Mr. Lily, so if you go, that is where you will see her. I suppose a lot of people go from Crawley. Leany says she as(sic) not had a letter from you for a long time. Fred Crane is home on his holidays – asked for you.</p> <p>We are all quite well and hope you are the same.</p> <p>Love from all John Jones.</p>
Sep. 2 nd 1893	Well House Bletchley (This letter contains the letter from George addressed from the Mitre Hotel Bridgend referred to in G.A.J above)	<p>Dear Louie,</p> <p>We got your letter alright and am glad you are coming home for a few days, - a week tomorrow is our feast, so you will be home just right for it. I am afraid you won't be able to get any blackberries, - people are all after them. We have a few down the garden hedge, but you will see when you come.</p> <p>I have no time to write about George, but I have sent you his letter I got a day or two ago, so that you can read for yourself. If you write a few lines to us, please send it back.</p> <p>We are going to have a Bazzar(sic) on Friday next, when there will be (a) church service at 2 o'clock P.M. We shall be quite busy that day, we are going to ring a trial peal on the Bells tonight, as the bell Hangers are going away next Tuesday. So they want to see if the work right before Friday Sep. 8th.</p> <p>I have no more time to write, so I must close with fond love from all.</p> <p>From your Father & Mother J. & E.A. Jones.</p>
Oct 8 th 1893	Well House Bletchley	<p>Dear Louie,</p> <p>Just a line to say Leany did not come home on Saturday last. Will saw Fred last night. He told him that she would not be home before</p>

George Alfred Jones John Jones **Selina Jones** Sarah Jones Miscellaneous

		<p>Saturday next, 14th inst. Mrs. T. was going out on Tuesday next so she wanted Leany to stop for a few days longer to turn out all the rooms, - or something of that sort. We would like for you to come when Leany is home.</p> <p>There are some of my old dancers that want to have a dance, - so I think of trying to get one on the 20th - a week next Friday, as there is a concert next Friday – so the Fenny rag says. I provided a lot of meat, expecting to see you both home, but no one turned up. Can you put your visit off until Leany comes ? – except that you can come twice. We are quite well and hope that you are the same. I must now close my short note with fond love from all.</p> <p>I remain your loving Father John Jones.</p>
<p>10/12/93</p>	<p>Well House Bletchley</p>	<p>Dear Louie,</p> <p>Not hearing from you since George left, I thought I would drop you a line to say we was all well and hope you are the same.</p> <p>You know George said they were going to India on the old “Crocadile”(sic), but she failed at Aden, near the Red Sea, So they are gone out on the “Serapis”. We had a letter from them last Sunday to say they would start on the 9th December. We got a post card bearing the hand writing of George & Jim Boorer. George wrote his part in the train going to Portsmouth & Jim finished it and posted it on Friday night. Jim said that they arrived at Portsmouth at 2 o’clock P.M, 8th and went on board at 3-30P.M. and was to set sail yesterday. Mary was quite happy in her bunk and George seemed alright. If the weather is as rough there as it is here, they are, no doubt, sea sick before now.</p> <p>I answered George’s letter, sent them a few kisses and wished them a pleasant voige(sic).</p> <p>Dear Louie, I don’t know whether Leany has written to you or not. She popped(sic) home a week last night and back again, a week last Monday by the 9-10 A.M. train. She said that she expected to have had a letter from you, but had not. Mrs. T. was not come home yet, so none of them had got their pay yet. If you did not write to her – she would to you, as soon as she was paid.</p> <p>I thought of coming over to day but the weather is very rough and I suppose it is not your Sunday out.</p> <p>I haven’t much news to tell you, as no doubt, you have seen the Fenny rag about Mrs. Henly’s, Jim Clark’s, Old Golding’s & Harry Morry’s death. And Richard Thorne died last Wednesday at Newton</p> <p>I have no more news to tell you at present, so must close with fondest love from all.</p> <p>We remain your loving Father & Mother J. & E.A. Jones</p> <p>Excuse blunders</p> <p>(P.S.) I regret to say we have lost poor old Drayton. She went out last Sunday night when we went to church & we have not seen her since.</p> <p>Poor De. Viles. J.J</p> <p>A few from all</p> <p>F xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx M xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx S xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx W xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx</p>

George Alfred Jones John Jones **Selina Jones** Sarah Jones Miscellaneous

Fri. Dec. 15 th 1893	Well House Bletchley	Dear Louie, In reply to yours to hand, (weather permitting) me and Will will be over on Sunday. We shall call on Lizzie Young about dinner time and walk through the Park to Aspley to Alice's about 3 P.M. Will tell you all when we come. Close with love. From your Father J. Jones.
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George Alfred Jones John Jones **Selina Jones** Sarah Jones Miscellaneous

<p>Undated (but pre-August because reference is made to the family going away in August)</p>	<p>Wadsworth House Bedford</p>	<p>My Dearest Louie, Just a line or two in answer to your letter, received this morning. I really cannot tell you when I shall be home as it is not settled about these people going away, but they do go away some time in August. Write and let me know when you are coming home, because if Mrs. Thornton is not going (as I don't know whether she is or not, but the cook says she always goes to the seaside in August) away, I shall ask for a day or two to be with you, but if she goes away, I shall be home for a fortnight. Mrs. T and her daughters are gone to Bletchley from yesterday, Thursday, till Monday and the maid (h)as gone home, so me and the cook are here together. I am enjoying my young self, I am going on the river this afternoon with Nelly Jones of St. John's rectory, - me and her are quite chums. I heard from Dad on Monday morning asking me to go home when you were there. I do so hope that I shall be able to get home. If not, you will have to come and see me here at Bedford, I must now conclude with best love – hoping to see you soon. I remain your ever loving sister Selina Jones</p> <p>Excuse scribble - in haste.</p>
<p>Undated (but after 10th July which was Lena's birthay)</p>	<p>Wadsworth House Kimbolton Road Bedford</p>	<p>My Dearest Louie, Thanks very much for your present, - I am delighted with it. I thought you was never going to write to me because it is three weeks since I wrote to you. When I reminded you about the tenth of this month I did not expect a present, I only wanted you to remember it. But still, I am very pleased with it. I had a letter from Geo. a week last Monday, and he told me about them going to India. I don't like the thought of Geo. going to India, but if he takes on, as it seems he is going to do, he is bound to be order(ed) out to India. I suppose he will take poor Mary with him. I wonder how they are getting on. I should like to drop on they unawares. Just fancy – Geo. with a wife – it seems as if it cannot be true, though I have seen her and I like her very much. I think it would be very nice if we all could get home all at once. If Dad did get up a dance it would be a treat – would it not ?. I have written home twice but have received no answer, so yours is the only birthday present I have had. I am very sorry to hear about Aunt Fox, am glad she is a little better. I have had a letter from Fred (that is the name of my chap ever since I have been here). He appears very nice, so I shall stick to him, I think. I am sorry to have to tell you that our cook is going to get married in September. She is such a nice cook (I think I told you it was Jim French's sister – him that married Sarah Beasley). She (h)as been walking out with him for seven years, so it is a long standing (affair). We get on very well togrther. I am very happy and comfortable here. Bedford is a very nice place, I like it very much. It is Bedford flower show to day but I don't (know) whether I shall go or not. I should very much like a dance. I don't think there is any more this time so must conclude with love to all at Portsmouth. I remain your ever loving Lean.</p> <p>Please excuse scrawl – in a hurry.</p> <p>xxxx xxxx xxxx</p>

George Alfred Jones John Jones **Selina Jones** Sarah Jones Miscellaneous

		Hope I shall have the pleasure of seeing you soon S.J. xxxxxx
Undated	Well House Bletchley	<p>Dearest Louie, I daresay you think I am never going to write to you, but I think you owe me a letter.</p> <p>I do so wish you could run over for a few hours so(me) time next week. But Mother says you are very busy as you have such a lot of company in the house. I heard from Fred last Saturday, - he wished to be remembered to you. We are going to move from Bedford in September, so I hear, I don't know if Mrs. Thornton will take me with her when she goes, or whether she will have a fresh lot of servants in. Mrs. Thornton has been staying at the Elmers this last week, and some more of the family – they have all had to clear out today. But Miss Gertrude could not manage to go to day so is going to morrow, - the house does no(t) seem the same.</p> <p>I have no more to say this time, so must conclude with fond love. I remain your ever loving Sister Lena.</p> <p>P.S. Dad & Mum and Sadie & Bill send their best love xxxxxxxxxxxx xxxxxxxxxxxx xxxxxxxxxxxx</p> <p>I don't know (how) long I shall be at home.</p>
Undated	Wadsworth House Kimbolton Road Bedford	<p>My Dearest Louie, Me and Mildred arrived a(t) Wadsworth house quite safe. Mrs. Thornton sent a telegram to say she should not be home untill(sic) six a clock, and she missed that train but arrived home @ ½ past seven, - they are having dinner now. Told her, directly she came in that I went home again and she was quite pleased and said I done quite right, and she was so pleased with the house because the house looked so nice and clean. When she was having dinner --- (how nice the silver does look baby ??). They are coming over to Bletchley to morrow for the day so we shall enjoy our young selves just a little bit.</p> <p>You must excuse my scribble, because I am in a dreadful hurry. I will write again before Thursday. No more this time from</p> <p>Your ever loving sister Selina Jones.</p> <p>Love to all</p> <p>Remember me to Fred if you see him</p> <p>xxxxxxx xxxxxxx</p>
Undated (but George & Mary sailed on 9th December so this letter must be in the 1st half of December probably too early as presented here)	Wadsworth House Kimbolton Road Bedford	<p>My Dearest Louie, As I promised you a nother letter on Thursday I suppose I must write it, but I have got very little to say. I feel my old self again with my work to do, it was moping about and not having my regular work to do. I hope you got my letter on Tuesday morning, but I am rather afraid you did not as it was past nine when I posted it.</p> <p>I had not go(t) a stamp, and the post office was shut up when I got there, so I was all most at my wits end to know when I could get a stamp, so all at once, I thought of Nelly Jones, so I went off as hard as I coul go to where she lives and I got one ther(e). She said she should love to see you, and I was to send her love to you, and all at home. She went for her holidays last Tuesday for a month to Dunstable, to her Aunt Jenny Markem, and she is going to see Emily in London – nice to be her – is it not ?. I should have went to the station and seen her off, only our people</p>

George Alfred Jones John Jones **Selina Jones** Sarah Jones Miscellaneous

		<p>did not go to Bletchley as I thought.</p> <p>Miss Ivy came here to lunch and brought young Dick to stay here a few days. He (h)as to sleep in the same room as me because he (h)as the toothache and if he had it in the night I could see to him. But he was very good, he never woke me up. I slept very sound for I was tired. Mrs. Thornton said to me last night at dinner time "How very nice the silver look(s) Selina", Miss Ivy said how nice it look(ed) – it look(ed) quite beautiful, - that was a feather in my cap.</p> <p>Dear Louie, they are going three more visits yet, so we shall enjoy our little selves. I hope you are enjoying your Dear little self and I hope you are quite well and all at home.</p> <p>Did you go to Cheddington on Tuesday ?, and how is Aunt Jane and all the others ?.</p> <p>I dare say you enjoy(ed) yourself if you went to the children('s) treat in Barrow's field. As I write this letter I am thinking how I should love to be their(sic).</p> <p>I had a letter from Fred this morning, and he said that he was going to see you in the Field, and also that he(you ?) was in the park with him on Monday. What do you think of him now you know a little more of him ? – do you like him as much as I hope you do ? because he seems very nice – does he not ?. He told me this morning he loved me very much. Don't tell anybody. How did George go off ?. Tell Sarah to remember me to Annie Bertt(???) (and when they write to me again, ask her for her address) to send it. I have written that backwards, but I dare say you can make it out.</p> <p>Give my love to all and except(sic) the same yourself.</p> <p>From your ever loving Sister Selina Jones</p> <p>xxxxxx xxxxxx xxxxxx</p> <p>Write as soon as you can when you get back. Excuse short letter. Selina Jones.</p>
Undated (but Sept. or later as reference made to Jim in Wales)	Wadsworth House Bedford	<p>My Dearest Sis</p> <p>I was so delighted to receive your welcome letter. I thought you rather a long time answering mine, but never mind – better late than never.</p> <p>Am so sorry you are so hard worked, you must be worn out. You really ought to have some one in to help, - how about the girl you was to have in when you had extra to do ?. I don't mind pencil in the least as long as I hear from you. I have not heard from home since your letter which you wrote to me when you was there. I do hope and trust Geo. won't get hurt in South Wales, for they have been carrying on finally down there.</p> <p>Our people are going to Brighton soon, so I shall be able to run home for a week then, prehaps(sic). I had a letter from Fred yesterday morning (Monday) asking me to go over to Bletchley for a day when you was at home. Or him and you come over to see me, but it is no used(sic) for you to come here as we are not allowed anyone in, - and I am not able to come home – so me and Fred can run to see you when I come home.</p> <p>Fred tells me Sarah walks out with the Second Horseman at Leon's, and that he is engaged, and Fred say('s) that he knows that he does not want her for any good by what he told him. From what I can ----- (page or pages missing)</p>
Undated	Wadsworth House Bedford	<p>Dear Louie,</p> <p>I was delighted to receive your letter. I was afraid you would not receive (mine) as I had not put "the vicarage" on it. Sarah arrive(d) here quite safe this morning. She will stay the night with me and call on you as she comes back tomorrow. She will leave here at 2-45 getting at Ridgemont at 3-13. Could you meet her at the station ?, it would be better for her.</p>

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		<p>She would not have time to catch that 5-38 so she must catch the train that leaves Ridgemont at 8-33.</p> <p>Sarah will tell you all about me when she see(s) you.</p> <p>No more. I remain your ever loving Sister Lena.</p>
Undated	Wadsworth House Kimbolton Road Bedford	<p>My Dearest Louie,</p> <p>I received your kind and loving letter quite safe last Monday morning. I could not think who the letter (was from) as it was not your writing that had address(ed) the envelope, - who did address it ?. How did (you) find Aunt Fox and the rest of them ?. I am very sorry you did not enjoy yourself at the dance, - it was a pity I was not their(sic). I daresay poor Mother felt rather lonely when we had all gone back to our different places.</p> <p>I am very pleased you like Fred, for he really is very nice, but I don't care for him as much as he cares for me – I don't think. Still, I like him, - you know, but I don't think Fred will be my lot.</p> <p>I expect Fred Crane does feel rather lonely and miserable, but he will soon get over that, - just remember me to him when you see him again.</p> <p>I went out last We(d)nesday morning for Mrs. Thornton, and who do you think I did see ?, - William as used to be our baker. He was delighted to see me but he hardly knew me, he said I had got so big. He said he never get(s) any button holes now.</p> <p>I am sorry you gave Fred my letter to read, as it was written so bad, if it was the first, as I expect you had not got the second.</p> <p>I don't think their(sic) is any more this time – from your ever loving sister</p> <p>Selina Jones</p>
	Wadsworth House Bedford	<p>My Dearest Lou,</p> <p>I was so delighted to hear from you once more, for I began to think you had forgotten me. I got your letter Monday evening, about eight. I was so delighted when I discovered your handwriting.</p> <p>What very hot weather we did have last week, - if it had continued much longer I really think I should have died. I can't think how ever you got on – always before the fire.</p> <p>Dear Louie, We are going to stop in Bedford. Mrs Thornton is having the house enlarged, - such a bother. They are putting on four rooms, two up and two down, so when the workmen have finished outside, our people will have to go away for them to come inside, as their(sic) is going to be a lot of alterations. So when they go away, I shall be able to run home for a few days and then me and Fred will come and see you.</p> <p>The workmen are very busy with it now, so you know what their(sic) is to do with workmen round you – dust flying in all directions. I can't possibly keep a room clean as it ought to be.</p> <p>We are having the dining room painted and papered – that is the only room in the house disturbed as yet, so they have their meals in the drawing room.</p> <p>I do hope I am not boring you with all the details, but won't tell you any more as I can tell you when I see you.</p> <p>It is very nice for you to be able to run home for a few hours. Am pleased to hear you sent to Fred, - hope you see him – not the least bit jealous. How does he look?, is he quite well?.</p> <p>I am quite well and hope you are the same. Dear Louie, Nellie has gone to Eastborne with her family for six weeks, and I hope it will do her good for she look(ed) dreadfully ill before she went.</p> <p>Did your dress do alright which A. James made?.</p> <p>No more this time. Hoping to hear from you soon.</p> <p>I remain your loving Lena.</p>
Undated	Wadsworth House	<p>My dearest Louie,</p> <p>I was delighted to receive your letter this morning, - am glad to hear that</p>

George Alfred Jones John Jones **Selina Jones** Sarah Jones Miscellaneous

	Kimbolton Road Bedford	<p>you are quite well as it leaves me the same @ present and that Bill('s) eyes are better. I was wondering this morning before I got your letter how his eyes was. I went to see Mrs Walker on Sunday afternoon and I stopped to tea with them, they was very pleased to see me. Walker was in bed – he was not very well his kidney's was bad. And poor Mrs. Facer has been in bed for over a week again, or else since she has been in Bedford she has been much better. When I was coming home from Mrs. Walker's, who should I see but Ted, so I made him turn back with me a little way. I went out in the evening for a walk with him. He is quite well, and he said he might be over at Bletchley to morrow, if not, a week next Sunday.</p> <p>Long Teddy(Seddy?) is courting a bar maid now – two fool(s) together should think.. Have you been to see Dick Reid since you have been home ?.</p> <p>Dear Louie, I should very much like to run home to see you all once more. But when I came home those few days when Mr. Allen was at Bletchley, - when I came back the house was in such a confusion that Mrs. Thornton said she could not let me come home again unless she was away from home. If she went away, of course, I should come home, and I should love to go to a dance.</p> <p>Give my love to Dad, Mother, Sarah & Bill and tell hem that I am quite well and that I shan't forget her birthday</p> <p>I have got another hat - that white I had in the Summer. I had it died(sic) black and I got some nice corded ribbon and two quilts(sic) and it does look nice, and I have got a new blue dress – having it made up and am going to get a new jacket so I shall be quite a swell.</p> <p>No more this time, I remain your loving sister Lena xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx</p>
Undated	Wadsworth House Kimbolton Road Bedford	<p>My Dearest Louie,</p> <p>Thanks so much for your kind and loving letter, I was delighted to hear from you. But I am very sorry to hear you have been working so hard. I expect you will stay their(sic) till you make yourself quite ill and then you will have to come away. Well, if I was you, I should leave at the end of Nov. and be home for Xmas, and get a place after, as you say.</p> <p>I have not got much news to tell you. Mrs. Thornton (h)as been away for a few days, - she is coming home tomorrow. I had a letter from Fred this morning and he send(s) his kind love to you, and he tells me he has got a bad back – can scarcely walk, so I have written to him and to(ld) him to go to a Dr., if he has not been. I heard from Dad last Monday and he tell(s) me that Bill (h)as been to the Dr. and is on the club, but his eyes don't seem any better.</p> <p>Please excuse scribble for it is just as if I cannot write.</p> <p>No more this time from your ever loving Sister Selina Jones.</p>
Undated (but Sarah's birthday is 15/11 – see bold text in letter)	Wadsworth House Kimbolton Road Bedford	<p>My Dearest Louie</p> <p>Just a few lines in answer to yours received a bout an hour ago. I was very pleased to hear from you. I am writing this to night so the gardener can post it in the morning. I should be very pleased to come home and stay till after Xmas, - we should enjoy our little selves. I am longing to see you all once more and I shall be able to get a good mending up, for I am all rags and tatters, for we have such a lot of company. We have got Mrs. French her(e) now, - been here nearly a fortnight, and got another lady coming on Tuesday., and it takes me all my tme to wait on them without doing any house work or mending. Mrs. Thornton has been very nice since I have been leaving.</p> <p>Give my love to Dad, Mother, Sarah and Bill and except(sic) the same yourself. Wish Sarah many happy returns of the day for me. I have not been out, so I have not been able to buy anything to send her. Since last Friday I have had such a dreadful cold, (I) could scarcely breath(e), but it is better today. Am sorry Bill's eyes are not much better.</p>

George Alfred Jones John Jones **Selina Jones** Sarah Jones Miscellaneous

		<p>I shall come a fortnight tomorrow, We(d)nesday, by the 5-41 train from Bedford – get at Bletchley soon after 6. Excuse scribble, my dearest Louie, as I am in a hurry.</p> <p>I remain your ever loving Sister Lena. XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX</p> <p>Mrs. Thornton was not at Bletchley to day. I heard from Fred on Monday morning</p>
Undated	Wadsworth House Bedford	<p>My Dear Lou,</p> <p>No doubt you think I am never going to write to you again, but I hope you will forgive me.</p> <p>Mrs. T. has not come home yet, Miss Nora has had typhoid fever – only just recovering. Expect them home next week. They are staying at Hitchin at Mrs. Trotter's. Am glad it did not happen here, for we should have had a time of it, - you know what the Lowndes's are in case of illness. We have been back, Dear Lou, a month yesterday. I am getting quite tired of this messing about, for the workmen are not cleared out of the house yet, so we can't finish anything really. . I do hope you're not in wants of the 10/- you lent me, because I have not got it to send you.</p> <p>Miss Gertrude and Mrs. Trottr was over here one day last week and I ask(ed) Miss Gert. to ask Mrs. T. to send me some money, as not one of us had any money, and she sent me a paltry £2. And, you know, Dearest, I wanted a new jacket and several things, so it soon went. I also sent Sarah 6/- so she is going to have her Photo taken. I will send the money as soon as I can.</p> <p>(H)as Mrs. B. ('s) case come off yet?, - I suppose it has, so you have had plenty to do.</p> <p>I went out this afternoon to see Nellie Jones, - she is quite well and sends her love to you, and except(sic) the same from me.</p> <p>I remain your ever loving sister Lena Jones.</p> <p>Write soon, if only a few words.</p> <p>George set(s) sail tomorrow (Saturday) in the Serapis, as the Croc. Is under repair.</p> <p>Don't forget to write, as I am longing to hear from you.</p>
Undated (but first half of December – see bold text re George & Mary they sailed 9th Dec.)	Wadsworth House Kimbolton Road Bedford	<p>My Dearest Louie,</p> <p>As I promised you a nother letter on Thursday, I suppose I must write it, bit I have very little to say. I fee my old self again with my work to do – it was moping about, and not having my regular work to do. I hope you got my letter on Tuesday morning, but I'm rather afraid you did not as it was past nine when posted it. I had not got a stamp ant the post office was shut up when I got there so I was almost at my wits end to know when I could get a stamp, so, all at once, I thought of Nelly Jones so I went off as hard as I could to where she lives, and I got one there, - she said she should love to see you, and I was to send love to you and all at home. She went for her holidays last Tuesday, for a month to Dunstable, to her Aunt Jenny Markem, and she is going to see Emily in London – nice to be her, is it not ?.I should have went to the station and seen her off only our people did not go to Bletchley, as I thought.</p> <p>Miss Ivy came here to lunch and brought young Dick to stay a fe days. He (h)as to sleep in the same room as me because he (h)as the toothache, and if he had it in the night I could see to him. But he was very good – he never woke me up and I slept very sound, for I was tired. Mrs. Thornton said to me last night at dinner time “How very nice the silver look(s) Selina”, Miss Ivy said how nice it look(ed) – it look(ed) quite beautiful, - that is a feather in my cap.</p> <p>Dear Louie, they are going three more visits yet so we shall enjoy our little selves. I hope you are enjoying your Dear little self, and I hope you are quite well, and all at home. Did you go to Cheddington on Tuesday? And how is Aunt Jane and all the others?. I dare say you enjoy(ed) yourself f you went to the childrens('s) treat in Barrow's field. As I write</p>

George Alfred Jones John Jones **Selina Jones** Sarah Jones Miscellaneous

		<p>this, I am thinking of how I should love to be their(sic). I had a letter from Fred this morning, and he said he was going to see you in the Field and also that he(you?) was in the park with him on Monday. What do you think of him now you know a little more of him – do you like him as much as I hope you do?. Because he seems very nice, does he not?. He told me this morning that he loved me very much. Don't tell anybody. How did George go off?. Tell Sarah to remember me to Annie Bertt (and when they write to me again, ask her for her address – to send it). I have written that backwards, but I dare say you can mae it out. Give my love to all and except(sic) the same yourself.</p> <p>From your ever loving Sister Selina Jones xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx</p>
Undated	Well House Bletchley	<p>My Dearest Sis, We was rather surprised to hear you was leaving , but I don't blame you, I would not stop there to be worked to death. You have been their(sic) quite long enough – you only get put upon. We had a letter from George a week today, they are quite well. I am writing to Bill, so am sending George's letter for him to read. You see, Old Girlie, I have got home again – been home a fortnight. Very busy, I have got such a lot of sewing to do. I went to Euston with my Invalid. I had a letter from her last Monday, - she is going to Bournemouth Convalescent Home the end of this week. I am going to write to her as well, so you must excuse my short letter. Don't know when I shall go away, not before you come home. I must conclude, hoping this will find you quite well as it leaves us all at present. I remain your ever loving sis Lena.</p>
Undated	Wadsworth House Bedford	<p>My Dearest Lou, Many thanks for your kind and welcome letter. I was delighted to hear from you to know how you was getting on. I am pleased to hear Mrs. B. (h)as got on alright, - you have had a fine time of it. Mrs. T. has not come home yet – we expected them home the end of last week, now it is this week. I do hope they will come this wee. I will get you the things you ask me as soon as ever Mrs. T. pay(s) me. You need not trouble to send the money for them. Dear Lou, people don't wear anything round the neck in particular, - the fashion fits tight to the neck and then they generally have a fur or collarete on. The majority have nothing – it is not cold enough, nor muffs, - they are not worn. Dear Lou, when I heard from Fred last, he talked of leaving Leon's. I don't know whether he will or not. He said it is getting too rough. Just drop me a line, if only on a P.C., with Jim Boorer('s) address as I want to send some cards for the children. I hope you will have a Merry Xmas and a Happy New Year. We was at home this time last year, - I suppose you remember it. I don't think I have any more to say this time, hoping this will find you quite well as it leaves me the same. I remain your ever loving Sister Lena.</p>
Undated	Wadsworth House Bedford	<p>My Dear Louie, I hope you will forgive me for not answering you® letter and card before. Thanks so much for the card. Our people came home last Tuesday, and we have had a time of it <u>run run run</u> from morning till night so I really have not had time to go out to get your gloves till last night since they have been home, and I could not get them before, as I had not got the money to get them with. I hope you will like them – if you don't, you must send them back and I will change them. They are the best I could get of suede for the money – 1/11½, paper and envelopes 1.½ (??). I will send the rest in a(n) order in a letter after I have heard from (you/) again. Thanks for Xmas Box. I hope (this) will find you quite well as it leaves me the same at present, and also that you will have a little more time to yourself. Let me know if you get this as soon as you can. I sent home a plum pudding – a small</p>

George Alfred Jones John Jones **Selina Jones** Sarah Jones Miscellaneous

		<p>one, and two mince pie(s), I hope they got them alright. No more, hoping to hear from you soon. I remain your ever loving Sis Lena xxxxxxxxxxxxx</p> <p>P.S. Have just thought, - will put 4/6d in a(n) envelope in the parcel and the other 6d will pay for (the) sending of the parcel.</p>
Undated	Wadsworth House Bedford	<p>My Dearest Lou, Very many thanks for your kind letter. I was pleased you like the gloves, I was rather afraid you would not like them, but they are much better than kid. I am very pleased to say that Miss Nora is getting on well, - (h)as been out this last three days for a little while. The nurse went away last Friday – so gla to get rid of her, for she made me a lot of extra work. I have a little more time to myself now the house is a lttle bit straiter(sic). I am very much afraid I shall not be able to manage all the work their(sic) will be to do when the house is quite strait(sic). I told Mrs. T. so, and I said couldn't I have some help?, and she said she would see how we got on. She really wants another servant for two passages and staircases is all white paint. I shan't stop to do it all, so she need not think I shall, - it will worry me to death, and their(sic) is a quantity of silver to be kept clean. We have as many as 10 or 11 fires on the go – no joke. Do not mention what I have said if you happen to wite home shortly, because I shall see how things go..</p> <p>Well, Dear Lou, I am pleased to say I am quite well and hope this will find you the same. When you write to Jim again, tell him I am waiting patiently for a letter from them, which they promised at Xmas. Nellie Jones has gone away for a holiday to Dunstable, - she is going to call at Bletchley. I have not heard from Geo. & Mollie yet – hope to hear soon.</p> <p>No more - remain your ever loving Sis Lena xxxxxxxxxxxxx</p>
Undated	Wadsworth House Kimbolton Road Bedford	<p>My Dearest Louie, I did not expect another letter from you, as the time for my coming home was so near. I am afraid that you will be disappointed when I say that I shall not be home for another fortnight, as Mrs. Thornton (h)as not got a housemaid. She wanted me to stop a month, and she would get one in that time, - but I will only stay a fortnight, for if she got a housemaid before the month was up she would say “ Oh, Selina – I am suited with a maid, - you can go”.</p> <p>I had a letter from Fred on Sunday morning, - am going to answer it tonight. But shan't tell him what train I am coming by, when I do come. I shall come by the same train. (If) he ask(ed) me what train I should come by and he would be at the station to meet me. I am longing to see you all one more. I shall be glad when a fortnight a' We(d)nesday come, for I long to have a dance.</p> <p>Give my love to Dad & Mum, Sally & Bump and except(sic) the same yourself, from your ever loving sister Lena.</p> <p>P.S. Have you heard from George lately?. Wrote to him a long time ago, and he (h)as never answered it. Do you know how Jim and Mary Boorer are getting on? Your loving sister Lena.</p> <p>Excuse scribble dearest. Shall tell Fred I shall not be home till after Christmas. Keep it a secret. S.J.</p>
Undated	Wadsworth House Bedford	<p>My Dearest Louie, I shall be home tomorrow, We(d)nesday afternoon, by the 2-47 from Bedford, - arrive at Bletchley 3-30. Will you come to the station to meet me?. I am longing to see you all. I thought I should have heard from you again before I came home.</p>

George Alfred Jones John Jones **Selina Jones** Sarah Jones Miscellaneous

		<p>Mrs. Thornton is in bed with a bad cold. I have still the remains of my cold on me. Mrs. T. was talking to me about granny dad & mother & uncle Robert (whose Mrs. T's or Jones's?), - she said she (h)as taken granny her Xmas dinner when she used to live opposite Hand's the chemist, before those old houses was pulled down. She is going to give me a shawl for mother.</p> <p>I had a letter from Fred, a week today, and I have not answered it – am not going to now.</p> <p>I don't think I have got any more, as I can tell you all when I see you.</p> <p>I remain your ever loving Lena</p>
Undated	Well House Bletchley	<p>Dear Lou,</p> <p>You will see by the address that I have arrived home at last. And very pleased I am to get home for a rest, for I am pretty well done up. I am going to try to walk into Fenny to see Mrs. Jordon and then to see Dr. Deyns. I am so short of breath, so I thought he would set me up again.</p> <p>Dear Louie, I wish you would come over next Friday. Nellie Jones wants to come over for the day, and she would so very much like to see you.</p> <p>Dad talks something about a dance. Do write and let me know if you can come, because of letting Nellie know.</p> <p>I suppose you have not heard about poor Old Judge, - George Judge('s) Father – found drowned in the canal at Water Eaton, - going to be buried to day at Fenny.</p> <p>I have no more to tell you this time, so must conclude. I remain your loving Sister Lena.</p> <p>P.S. Thanks, so much, for lace am so pleased with it. Do write soon</p>

George Alfred Jones John Jones Selina Jones Sarah Jones Will Jones **Miscellaneous**

<p>Undated (but assume April 1893 – see JJ’s letter of April 30th re Mary Susan Selby-Lowndes), also Will’s birthday was 30th March). Drayton was lost by Dec. 1893)</p>	<p>Well House Bletchley</p>	<p>Dear Lou, Sarah (h)as planted some shamrock. Lean came over for a few hours to be confirmed at Fenny Stratford by the Bishop of Reading. Mary Susan Selby –Lowndes pass(ed) away on the 17th and was buired(sic) on the 21th(sic) – lots of flowers, crosses and wreaths. Drayton had some kittens on the 19th, three – one Tabby, and one Tabby and White and one tortishell(sic), - rare old family. Mr. Hanton is out of the infirmary, I don’t know wether(sic) youknow it or no. Fred A. shifted from here to London for three months, - we’ve had a letter from him, and likewise George. George and Mary are quite well, and Fred sends his love to you. We’ve had three frunerals(sic), besides Mrs. Lowndes. We live in hopes of seeing you in the corse(sic) of a few weeks and hope you are quite well, as it leaves us at present. You forgot my birthday, didn’t you?. See plenty of news in the paper.</p> <p>I remain your affectionate Brother William</p>
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George Alfred Jones John Jones Selina Jones Sarah Jones Will Jones **Miscellaneous**

<p>April 23rd 1893</p>	<p>Lockwood Kimbolton Rd. Bedford</p>	<p>My Dear Lou, Yes, it is true – hear (sic) come(s) a line once more from me, do forgive me for not answering your(s) before this. I (You) cannot guess how delighted I was to get your(s), it really done me good to hear of your whereabouts(s) once more. So glad to hear you was better – fancy you taking Bland’s – I could not help laughing, what a good thing they done you so much good. I guess you have some by you now, like me. I am pleased to tell you I am much better, am getting a little color(sic) coming under my skin, so it will shine through like the sun soon, I hope. Now, I hope you do not flirt too much with the red & blue jackets, - I wonder if my saying will come true about your marrying. Fancy Sarah going off – if nothing else happens, I do hope it won’t for all your sakes. I really do not know what to say about Kit, - her’s was to have come off this Easter Tuesday, but Jim meet(met) with an accident 7 weeks ago, and that fool, as ever should call him, let it go on until she (h)as left The Heath & went up to London to see about her room(‘)s, - then she wrote & said (h)is knee was no better – it would have to be put off, & I have (h)ad all the worrie(sic) of getting our dresses & hats. I have enclosed pattern like them. We have got fawn hats & gloves & silk underneath, like I have put in. Our dress(es) are made short bodices trimmed with narrow bead trimming to match, - they really do look nice. Kit will be dressed in fawn – if it ever dose(sic) come off. You must not come home without coming to see me, or I shall not be your friend, for I really am longing to see you once more. Do you think of this time last year how we was enjoying our little self’s(sic)? Whataever was that George thinking about when he wrote to you Ay?(Eh). The people up their(sic) have had that Horrid Influenza very bad. I went out this afternoon and saw a cycle parade and who do you think I saw?, - Miss Wells, her sister & Maud. She told me she was going to be married now, very soon, to Jack. She (h)as been very ill with the same complaint as you had. She had to keep (to) her bed three weeks. I will enclose Carrie(‘s) letter, which I had the other week, so you will be able to see how they are getting on. Their(sic) no mistake, but what they have been put about since we left them = it only serves them right thou(sic) dose (doesn’t) it? I cannot make Nurse out, she (h)as only wrote to me once – that was at X. (Xmas). I think she dose(sic) but very little work (from) what Carrie says, - she would not get it done out of me, nor you, we were rather too old for her – what say you? What lovely weather we are having now – have you made any marmalade this ye(a)r?. I wondr if you remember that night in the kitchen – the go you had tighing(sic) it up with red wool@ - because I do. The kitchen work suits me very well since I’ve been here. I have cooked more than we had the whole of the time. There is no stint nor saying “where this gone, or that”, we do live & I hope you do. I was rather surprised Lena had gone into a V.(vicarage), after knowing what you went through at one, does she get on any better now? How is Bill,?, and your pocket – still after cakes and wom wom(?). You can tell him I want to know. I have such a lot to ask you, but it is quite gone now. I must say adieu, hoping you are quite well and trusting I may hear from you again some day. With best love from a(n) standard friend Jennie. How are your nightdresses?, I have not finished two yet., not much time for needlework.</p>
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George Alfred Jones John Jones Selina Jones Sarah Jones Will Jones **Miscellaneous**

		<p>Enclosed : Envelope bearing address Miss Jones, 100 St. George's Square, Portsea, Portsmouth, Hants.</p>
Undated	Lockwood Kimbolton Road Bedford	<p>My Dear Louie, Many kind thanks for your nice long letter, received the other week. I wanted so to answer it last week, but each day something turned up to stop me, but I will try to do so now.</p> <p>What lovely weather we are having, the tree & field look lovely. A week yesterday, Sunday, I walked over as far as Clapham to see if I could find the Sims out, - I could not. I ask(ed) several people, - they did not seem to (k)now the name, so had my walk for nothing, & I forgot to tell you, before, that Rowkins lives in the next road & from my bedroom window I could see her quite plain until the tree come out & they have put a stop to it. I saw her out on Sunday & just to hear a bit of her brag, - I spoke, & she is going to take her 2 children to Woburn for a month, but not <u>(her under nurse)</u> & their(sic) is only 2 more kept beside her, so where does she come in Ay?. But we know what she was, don't we?,- one eye up the other down.(!).</p> <p>Dear Loui(e), Yes, I had seen in the papers about that war, but did not read it & fancy George been their(sic) – poor fellow, what would (h)is wife do?. Are you George's friend by this time?, I guess you was in a fine stew until you saw it over.</p> <p>Well, I must tell you, the banns are up at home & London & I suppose it is coming off at Whitsuntide, but I don't think I shall go. She made me feel quite cross over it, me doing my best towards it & to be fooled about, like I was. I rather hope we have company then, that would be a very good excuse for me. We are getting ready for some one Wed.</p> <p>I can guess you are a toff, but I fancy I hear you when you put on that bodice. What a pity it fit(s) so bad – you will never seem to like it half so well, it seem(s) you cannot do without the feathers in your hat.</p> <p>I am going to get me a nother hat to go with the electric dress, - it will be all black, as that will go better than colours in it, - and the fawn one dose(sic) not suit me very well. I gave my navy blue one a snag last week so had it to darn.</p> <p>Yes, Miss Wells did ask me about you, - so did her sister & she said you was a pretty dear not to write to her, - so I('ll) tell you what she said. I never told you before that Mrs. B. gave me a nice silver thimble, - just what I wanted, & Mr. B. came in the pantry & shut the door & said "Jane, I wanted to give you something in remembrance & I have got you this & I hope you will find it very useful & be sure you use it", & it was such a lovely leather purse. Miss B. said, - the morning I came away she was very sorry she could not get out to get me something, so her & Claude was in money, & I have thought it over now, I should like to get me a ring, or do you think I should get anything better as I could always keep that. I spent it at the time & now I'm just getting round. I cannot save, how do you go on now?</p> <p>You wanted to now (sic) how I went on, well I don't have it so hard as you think, for I do no washing up only dinning (sic) room, breakfast that I clear & answer all door(s) in the morning, but no up stair work to do. Their (sic) is 12 of us every day to cook for & dinner for three at night & we little ones have for our supper what's left, we do live, their (sic) is no stint. We have a cup of tea first thing in the morning.</p> <p>I have not found any young man down here, for they really are not worth their salt no aday's [nowadays] & I don't believe (sic) you will stick to</p>

George Alfred Jones John Jones Selina Jones Sarah Jones Will Jones **Miscellaneous**

		<p>the one for three years. Please remember me to Bill – you will miss him when he go away, but don't fret. Do you every here (sic) anything of nurse, for I don't. I cannot think what she as (sic) taken offence at, I am sure. What a good thing Lena get on all right, I think Mrs. Thornton as a lot of visitors for she as always got someone or other their (sic) – seems some old chap nearly always their (sic) going riding past with the daughter. I think I have told you all I can think of, with much love, I remain your loving Friend</p> <p>Jennie</p> <p>Do you here (sic) any new[s] from the boy at C [sea?]. I have not wrote to them since X. I should like to pop up for a few hour[s] but the train are so bad. Yes, I have passed several times our 4 penny tea place & have a good laugh. Of course I have still got that photo, until I have a better one from you. Shall have mine taken in a few more weeks but not their (sic) again, by Jove xxx</p> <p>Enclosed : piece of blue material and newspaper cutting as follows:-</p> <p style="text-align: center;">HUSBORNE CRAWLEY</p> <p>FASHIONABLE MARRIAGE – We understand that a marriage has been arranged between the Rev. Sir John C. Molyneux Bart. And Ada Isobel, the daughter of the late Rev. A. Farley Wynter, and niece of Mrs S. Orlebar, of Crawley Park, Husborne Crawley. THROUGH the kindness of his Grace the Duke of Bedford, many men in the village, who would otherwise have been out of work, have found employment in cleaning out one of the large ponds in Woburn Park. The frost had been very severe in this village, and the labouring people had really no work to do.</p>
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